

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF CADETS AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AND MAINTAINING THE CORPS OF CADETS AT AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

MAY 18 (legislative day, MAY 15), 1942.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6979]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6979) to authorize an increase of the number of cadets at the United States Military Academy and to provide for maintaining the corps of cadets at authorized strength, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with recommendation that it do pass, as amended.

AMENDMENT

Strike out all following the enacting clause and substitute the following:

That, on and after July 1, 1942, there shall be allowed at the United States Military Academy four cadets for each Senator, Representative, Delegate in Congress, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, six for the District of Columbia, and two cadets to be selected by the Governor of the Panama Canal from among the sons of civilians residing in the Canal Zone and the sons of civilian personnel of the United States Government and the Panama Railroad Company residing in the Republic of Panama, in addition to the number now authorized to be appointed from the United States at large, and from the enlisted men of the Regular Army and National Guard, and from the sons of deceased officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines.

SEC. 2. When on the date of admission of a new class the total number of cadets is below the number authorized, the Secretary of War may bring the corps of cadets to full strength by appointing qualified alternates and candidates recommended by the academic board, two-thirds thereof from qualified alternates and one-third thereof from qualified candidates: *Provided*, That any appointment made under this section shall be an additional appointment and shall not constitute an appointment otherwise authorized by law.

The foregoing language is contained in the text of S. 2477, to authorize an increase of the number of cadets at the United States Military

Academy and to provide for maintaining the corps of cadets at authorized strength, which was reported by the Committee on Military Affairs to the Senate on April 27, 1942, and passed by the Senate on May 7, 1942.

Your committee has given careful consideration to the measure as reported by the House in H. R. 6979, and adheres to its opinion as reported in S. 2477.

Report No. 1275 on S. 2477 follows:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2477) making provision to increase the number of cadets at the United States Military Academy and to provide for maintaining the Corps of Cadets at authorized strength, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that it do pass, amended as follows:

Amend section 2 to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. When on the date of admission of a new class the total number of cadets is below the number authorized, the Secretary of War may bring the Corps of Cadets to full strength by appointing qualified alternates and candidates recommended by the Academic Board, two-thirds thereof from qualified alternates and one-third thereof from qualified candidates: *Provided*, That any appointment made under this section shall be an additional appointment and shall not constitute an appointment otherwise authorized by law."

The bill increases the Corps of Cadets at the United States Military Academy by authorizing one additional appointment for each Senator, Representative, Delegate in Congress, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the Governor of the Panama Canal, in order that the present facilities of the Military Academy plant may be utilized to an emergency maximum capacity.

The present strength of the corps is fixed at 1,960. The proposed bill will authorize an increase of 536 cadets. This additional number can be cared for on an emergency basis by assigning one additional cadet to each room throughout the barracks.

To assure an approximate uniform strength for each new class, the proposed legislation will authorize the Secretary of War to make additional appointments when, on the date of admission, which is now July 1, the total number of cadets is below that authorized. This will provide a means whereby the total authorized strength may be maintained and permit the plant to function at its greatest efficiency.

Appointments made by the Secretary of War will be in addition to those otherwise authorized and will not constitute a charge against any unfilled appointments. These latter appointments shall remain open until the appointive right is exercised by the person in whom vested. In no way does this bill restrict, infringe upon, destroy or remove any appointive rights now vested in persons authorized to make appointments to the United States Military Academy.

The selection for such additional appointments will be upon recommendation of the Academic Board from the list of qualified alternates and candidates, two-thirds of such appointments to be selected from qualified alternates and one-third to be selected from qualified candidates. A qualified alternate is an applicant for admission to the United States Military Academy who, having been nominated as either a first or second alternate, has met the required physical and mental qualifications for entrance. A qualified candidate is an applicant for admission to the United States Military Academy who has been nominated by the President to enter the examinations for an appointment from the United States at large, the Regular Army, the National Guard, and sons of deceased officers and enlisted men. An applicant for entrance to the United States Military Academy who has once qualified for admission by passing the required mental and physical examinations remains so qualified, subject to further physical examination, until becoming ineligible for entrance because of age. An applicant for admission must not have reached the age of 22 years prior to the date of entrance which is now July 1.

The selection of such qualified alternates and qualified candidates is vested in the Academic Board for the reason that this is an impartial body charged with the examination and admission of candidates and has all the pertinent information on applicants and is best qualified to make the selection.

No appointments can be made in any year under section 2 of this bill unless the total of all candidates is below the authorized strength. Since no vacancies

are filled and there is no charge against a district or State, the selections are not restricted to the State in which a vacancy occurs. If this were done, the States which had the most failures or failed to make all appointments would receive the most cadetships and those States which habitually kept their quota filled would receive none. A selection from the entire list of qualified candidates and qualified alternates obviously gives a better selection and permits the distribution of the additional candidates among the several States as it should be.

The bill as originally introduced would have accomplished the same purpose and in the same manner, except that the selections for appointment under section 2 would have been made from all of the qualified candidates, which the War Department explains as including all alternates and all other applicants authorized to be entered in the Military Academy from the United States at large, the Regular Army, the National Guard, and sons of deceased officers and enlisted men, without fixing a proportionate number from these two general classes. The committee did not look with favor upon the use of the word "candidate" in this respect and amended the bill so as to classify alternates as distinguished from candidates and so as to fix a proportionate number which may be appointed under section 2 from each class.

The communication from the War Department follows:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 20, 1942.

HON. ROBERT R. REYNOLDS,
Chairman, Committee on Military Affairs,
United States Senate.

DEAR SENATOR REYNOLDS: There is enclosed herewith draft of a bill to authorize an increase of the number of cadets at the United States Military Academy and to provide for maintaining the Corps of Cadets at authorized strength, which the War Department recommends be enacted into law.

In view of the fact that no one knows how long the present war may last or what the post-war situation may require, it is believed by the War Department that the present facilities of the United States Military Academy should be utilized to the maximum emergency capacity. The proposed legislation is designed to accomplish this result by authorizing one additional appointment for each Senator, Representative, Delegate in Congress, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the Governor of the Panama Canal, and further by insuring that the full strength of the Corps of Cadets is approximately maintained from year to year.

The present strength of the corps is fixed at 1,960. The proposed bill will allow an increase of 536 cadets. This additional number can be cared for, on an emergency basis, by assigning 3 cadets to each room throughout the barracks.

The proposed legislation will authorize the Secretary of War to make additional appointments when on the date of admission, which is now July 1, the total number of cadets is below that authorized. The assurance of an approximate uniform strength for each new fourth class would result in the total authorized strength being maintained and permit the plant to function at its greatest efficiency.

Appointments made by the Secretary of War would be in addition to those otherwise authorized, and will not constitute a charge against any unfilled appointment. These latter appointments remain open until the appointive right is exercised by the person in whom vested.

The selection for such additional appointments will be upon recommendation of the Academic Board from the list of qualified candidates. This list will consist of those who were nominated as alternates and those who were authorized to enter the examinations for competitive appointments. All such candidates must meet the required physical and mental standards to be eligible for selection. From this list of qualified candidates, the Academic Board will select those best qualified and recommend them to the Secretary of War for appointment. Whenever all regular appointments are filled for any year, no appointments by the Secretary of War will be authorized.

The cost of the proposed legislation will require an annual increase in appropriations for pay and allowances amounting to \$1,053.75 per additional cadet appointed. Other additional funds will be required for the following purposes:

Additional training facilities for department of tactics.....	\$3, 000
Extra furniture for cadet barracks.....	32, 000
Additional toilet facilities.....	24, 000

INCREASE NUMBER OF CADETS AT MILITARY ACADEMY

Cost of extra cooks and mess attendants (recurring)-----	\$35, 000
Extra mess-hall equipment-----	20, 000
New temporary barracks for cadet mess attendants-----	84, 000
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Total-----	198, 000

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this proposed legislation for the consideration of the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON, *Secretary of War.*

